

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of cleaning a substrate of chromatographic materials in order to remove adsorbed prion infectivity, comprising washing the substrate with a concentrated ~~sodium chloride~~ salt solution consisting of an aqueous solution of sodium chloride, wherein the salt solution comprises a concentration of at least 1.0M.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the substrate is an adsorbent used in the purification of proteins or other macro molecules.
- 4-5. (Canceled).
6. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the salt solution has a concentration of at least 1.5M.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the salt solution has a concentration of at least 1.75M.
- 8-10. (Canceled).
11. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the method is employed to clean a substrate involved in the fractionation of human plasma.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the concentrated salt wash is followed by washing with an alkali.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the alkali has a concentration of 0.05M to 0.5M.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the alkali brings the pH at the substrate to at least 12.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the substrate is contacted with the alkali for 0.5 to 2 hours.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, comprising washing the substrate in a further step with the concentrated sodium chloride salt solution.

17. (Canceled).